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REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON KAMPUCHEA ON ITS ACTIVITIES DURING 1989/90

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea was established on 17 July 1981 by resolution 1 (I) of the International Conference on Kampuchea. 1/ In that resolution, the Conference, inter alia, entrusted the Ad Hoc Committee with the following tasks:

(a) To assist the Conference in seeking a comprehensive political settlement of the Kampuchean question, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/6 of 22 October 1980;

(b) To act as an advisory body to the Secretary-General between sessions of the Conference;

(c) To undertake missions, where appropriate, in consultation with the Secretary-General and taking into account his recommendations, in pursuit of a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict in Kampuchea;

(d) To advise the President of the Conference, after consultations with the Secretary-General, as to when the Conference should be reconvened.

In the same resolution, the Conference also requested the Committee to submit reports to the Conference.

2. In resolution 36/5 of 21 October 1981, the General Assembly adopted resolution 1 (I) of the International Conference on Kampuchea. In resolutions 37/6 of 28 October 1982, 38/3 of 27 October 1983, 39/5 of 30 October 1984, 40/7 of 5 November 1985, 41/6 of 21 October 1986, 42/3 of 14 October 1987, 43/19 of 3 November 1988 and 44/22 of 16 November 1989, the Assembly requested the Ad Hoc Committee to continue its work pending the reconvening of the Conference and authorized the Committee to convene when necessary and to carry out the tasks entrusted to it in its mandate.

3. The Ad Hoc Committee held its first formal meeting on 28 October 1981. The meeting was opened by Mr. Willibald Pahr (Austria), then President of the International Conference on Kampuchea. Mr. Massamba Sarré (Senegal) was elected Chairman of the Committee by acclamation. At the 2nd meeting of the Committee, on 11 January 1982, the representatives of Belgium and Malaysia were unanimously elected Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur, respectively. These officers have been re-elected to their posts in subsequent years.

4. The Ad Hoc Committee was originally composed of seven members. In 1982, it was enlarged to 10 members, in accordance with paragraph 1 of International Conference resolution 1 (I), which provided for the inclusion of additional members in the Committee. As a result, the Ad Hoc Committee is at present composed of the following member States: Belgium, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Thailand. A representative of the President of the International Conference on Kampuchea participates in the meetings of the Committee.

5. On 1 January 1986, Mr. Leopold Gratz, then Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria, succeeded Mr. Willibald Pahr as President of the International Conference on Kampuchea.

6. At its 39th meeting, on 25 August 1988, the Ad Hoc Committee elected Mrs. Absa Claude Diallo (Senegal) as its Chairman.

7. On 16 September 1989, Mr. Alois Mock, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria, succeeded Mr. Leopold Gratz as President of the International Conference on Kampuchea (see A/CONF.109/14).

I. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

8. At its 44th meeting, on 26 January 1990, the Committee unanimously re-elected its officers for the coming year and heard statements on the situation relating to Cambodia. It also had a preliminary discussion on its programme of work, and decided to entrust its Bureau to undertake a series of consultations in New York with concerned member States regarding developments in the situation and the possible contributions that could be made by the Committee.

9. At the 45th meeting, on 19 June 1990, the Chairman reported on the consultations undertaken by the Bureau. The Committee then concluded its consideration of its programme of work and decided, in accordance with its mandate, to undertake a mission to Tokyo, Jakarta and Salzburg.

10. At the 46th meeting, on 5 September 1990, the Chairman reported on the consultations held during the Committee's mission. At the same meeting, the Committee considered and adopted the present report on its activities during the past year.

II. ACTION TAKEN BY THE AD HOC COMMITTEE

11. In accordance with the decision of the Committee, the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee held consultations in New York with the Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations on 12 February 1990, with the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations of the States members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) on 16 February 1990, with the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations on 9 March 1990, with the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations on 23 March 1990 and with the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations on 21 June 1990. The Committee also met informally in New York with the President of the International Conference on Kampuchea on 21 February 1990. These consultations were aimed at obtaining first-hand information on the various initiatives undertaken at the regional level as well as by the five permanent members of the Security Council with a view to finding a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem.

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12. The mission of the Ad Hoc Committee visited Tokyo, Jakarta and Salzburg from 20 to 30 July 1990. The mission was composed of Mrs. Absa Claude Diallo (Senegal), Chairman, Mr. Paul Noterdaeme (Belgium), Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Nitya Pibulsonggram (Thailand). Mr. Birabhongse Kasemsri (Thailand) replaced Mr. Pibulsonggram for the delegation's discussions at Tokyo.

13. During the mission, extensive consultations were held on the situation in Cambodia and on the prospects for a comprehensive political settlement of that issue in the light of developments since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 44/22 and of the results of the discussions on Cambodia of the five permanent members of the Security Council. The mission indicated that the purpose of the consultations was to underscore the continuing concern of the international community for the Cambodian problem and to obtain the widest possible support for a comprehensive political settlement.

14. The mission stated that one of the main objectives of the Ad Hoc Committee was to encourage the initiation of a process of negotiations leading to the implementation of the Declaration on Kampuchea 2/ adopted by the International Conference and of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly. The mission expressed the view that a just and lasting settlement of the Cambodian problem must be based on the following principles: the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Cambodia under international supervision and verification, national reconciliation and the establishment of a Supreme National Council, an enhanced United Nations role, the non-return to the universally condemned policies and practices of a recent past, the right of the Cambodian people to determine their own destiny through the holding of internationally supervised free and fair elections and the establishment of a neutral and non-aligned Cambodia with appropriate international guarantees. It also reiterated the conviction that such a settlement should take into account the legitimate security concerns of the States in the region, including a commitment by all States to non-interference and non-intervention in the internal affairs of Cambodia.

A. Consultations at Tokyo

15. On 20 July 1990, the mission held consultations with senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan concerned with Cambodia. The Japanese officials briefed the mission on the meeting of the Cambodian parties held at Tokyo on 4 and 5 June 1990. Recent developments were reviewed and assessed in the light of the need for the continued wide support of the international community for a comprehensive political settlement in Cambodia.

B. Consultations at Jakarta

16. On 24 and 25 July 1990, the mission attended the opening and closing ceremonies of the twenty-third annual Ministerial Meeting of ASEAN, at the invitation of the Government of Indonesia. The mission held consultations, on 24 July, with the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of ASEAN, namely: Prince Mohamed Bolkiah (Brunei Darussalam); Mr. Ali Alatas (Indonesia),

Chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee; Dato Haji Abu Hassan Omar (Malaysia); Mr. Raúl Manglapus (Philippines); Mr. Wong Kan Seng (Singapore); and Air Chief-Marshal Siddhi Savetsila (Thailand).

17. Following a briefing by the mission on the activities of the Committee, an exchange of views was had on recent developments, including the results of the initiatives of the five permanent members of the Security Council, Australia, Indonesia, Japan and Thailand. The ASEAN Foreign Ministers stressed the need for a comprehensive political settlement encompassing all Cambodian parties based on the principles reflected in the relevant General Assembly resolutions. They expressed regret that such a solution had not yet been achieved, and called upon all parties to exercise further efforts towards that end. The ASEAN Ministers noted that there appeared to be general agreement that the establishment of a Supreme National Council should be one of the principal elements of a comprehensive settlement, as discussed by the five permanent members of the Security Council, and at the informal meeting on Cambodia in February and the Tokyo meeting in June. They expressed the view that a Supreme National Council representing all shades of political opinion in Cambodia should be formed on an urgent basis and should represent Cambodia at the United Nations. The ASEAN Ministers expressed their appreciation for the work the Ad Hoc Committee had done towards promoting a comprehensive political settlement and a wider understanding of the Cambodian problem. They expressed the hope that the international community would continue to support the efforts towards that end.

C. Consultations at Salzburg

18. At Salzburg, on 30 July 1990, the mission met with Mr. Alois Mock, the President of the International Conference on Kampuchea and Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria. The Cambodian question was reviewed in the light of the Committee's consultations in New York, Tokyo and Jakarta. Mr. Mock stressed the importance of attaining a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem. He expressed appreciation to the Committee for its efforts towards the realization of that goal.

III. CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS

19. The Ad Hoc Committee wishes to thank the Governments of Austria, Indonesia and Japan for their hospitality, as well as for the co-operation extended to its mission. The Committee also wishes to express its appreciation to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of ASEAN for receiving its delegation.

20. The Ad Hoc Committee welcomes the various efforts to find a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem, including those of the five permanent members of the Security Council, aimed at defining a framework for such a settlement. The Committee notes that those efforts are consistent with the principles contained in the Declaration on Kampuchea 2/ adopted by the International Conference on Kampuchea. The Committee believes that the progress achieved in that regard will provide the basis for furthering the process of

dialogue and negotiation among the Cambodian parties and for the early establishment of the Supreme National Council.

21. The Committee remains convinced that the long-term interests of all parties to the conflict lie in a negotiated settlement leading to the establishment of a sovereign, independent, neutral and non-aligned Cambodia. It is the hope of the Committee that all parties concerned will contribute actively to the negotiating process and demonstrate the necessary political will, thereby creating the conditions for the lasting peace and stability to which the Cambodian people have aspired for so long. The Committee will continue to support all efforts aimed at achieving that goal.

Notes

1/ Report of the International Conference on Kampuchea, New York, 13-17 July 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.I.20), annex II.

2/ Ibid., annex I.